"LO A VOICE FROM HEAVEN"

The Church of God Evangel

ALL NATIONS — MATT. 28:19.

EVERY CREATURE — MARK 16:15

CLEVELAND, TENN.

GOD IS LOVE

THE PILLAR

THE TRUTH

FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS

Howard Arnold Walters

I would be true, for there are those who trust me.
I would be pure, for there are those who care.
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer.
I would be brave, for there is much to bear.
I would be friend to all the poor, the friendless.
I would be giving, and forget the gift.
I would be humble, for I know my weakness.
I would look up—and love and laugh and lift.

—*Poems of Pep and Point for Public Speakers.*

THE GROUND OF

EPH. 2:20

I TIM. 3:15

"The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated . . ." James 3:17.

Vol. 37, No. ~~14~~ 15

June 8, 1946

NOTICES . . .

Open for Revivals

Rev. Truett Presley is now open for revivals. For reference, write, Rev. P. W. Chesser, 83 Montana Ave., Ashville, N. C.

To contact him, write: Rev. Truett Presley, Rt. 1, Black Mountain, N. C.

— — —

Sister Helen J. Kephart is now open for calls. She brings evangelistic messages, sings, and speaks on hand-painted charts. To contact her, write: Sister Helen J. Kephart, 1115 N. Cambria St., Bellwood, Penna. Phone 2942.

— — —

Those desiring handkerchiefs prayed over and anointed, please forward to Mary F. Storey, Rt. 3, Box 85, Valdosta, Ga. A stamped envelope should accompany the handkerchief.

— — —

For Sale

One electric Guitar and amplifier in good condition. Price $50.—Rev. T. S. Brown, Rt. 2, Box 161, Gurdon, Ark.

— — —

Open for Revivals

I am now in evangelistic work, and any one wanting me for a revival may contact me at this address: Box 404, N. Charleston, S. C.—Rev. L. J. Stone.

— — —

Open for Revivals

Sister Anthony and I are now open for evangelistic service everywhere. Anyone interested can contact us by writing to me at Lavonia, Ga.—Helen Aldrich.

— — —

The Church of God on the Air

"The Church of God on the Air," Spring Valley Church of God, over station WJOI, Florence, Ala., each Sunday morning from 6:30 to 7:00.—Rev. Carl Green, pastor, Tuscumbia, Ala.

— — —

"Church of God Hour," over station WGNC, Gastonia, N. C., each Saturday from 1:00-1:30 P.M., each Wednesday from 4:15-4:45 P. M.—Rev. Floyd Timmerman, Smyre Station, Gastonia, N. C.

— — —

South Cleveland, over station WBAC, Cleveland, Tenn., 1340 Kc. Each week day, except Saturday, from 10:15-10:30 A. M. Each Sunday from the church 11:45-12:15 P. M.—J. A. Bixler, pastor.

DEATHS

CARTER

On May 14, 1946, the death angel visited the home of Brother and Sister D. S. Carter, and took Sister Ora Carter to her long sought home. She was a faithful member of the Church of God for fifteen years and the Church of God at San Pedro, Calif. Her pastor, W. M. Barnard.

— — —

CORNUTT

William Henry Cornutt, 68, known to most of his friends as "Uncle Henry", departed this life to be with Jesus May 3, 1946. In the year 1910, he was saved at Canterbury Station, Alabama City, Alabama. Rev. J. W. Buckalew was doing the preaching.

He was saved, sanctified and filled with the blessed Holy Ghost. He, along with just a few more, set a Church of God in order at Alabama City of which Brother Cornutt never departed the faith.

Prayer and a few brief words were spoken by J. B. (Granddad) Ellis, Rev. J. D. Bright, who is so faithful to stand by the family in their hours of need, brought the message using Brother Henry's Bible with passages of scripture that he had heavily underscored.—Mrs. Claude Wright.

Requests for Prayer

PRAY FOR—

The Lord to heal my body, I have been having trouble with my ears.—Mrs. J. C. Allen, Rt. 5, Greenville, S. C.

The healing of my body. I have had three operations in less than three years. Encouragement appreciated.—Myrtle Tate, Burdette, Ark.

My son to be healed of a serious affliction.—Mrs. T. E. Watson, General Delivery, Mt. Pleasant, Tex.

A special friend of mine to be healed; also the healing of my body.—Minnie Eubank, Charleston, S. C.

Me to be healed. My son to be saved.—Mrs. Ella Poteete, Chicago 12, Ill.

Me and my two children to be healed of stomach and nerve trouble.—Rebecca Rogsdall, Sumiton, Ala.

My mother to be healed of a nervous condition.—Mrs. Irene Anderson, Fyffe, Ala.

My little three-year-old son to be healed. He had a serious accident on his sled.—Rev. Fannie Robinson, Grand Saline, Tex.

A special request.—M. Richardson, Mocksville, N. C.

A very special unspoken request.—Mrs. Willie Dublery, Blackshear, Ga.

God to undertake in our home.—Lottie Coats, South, Ky.

A very special unspoken request.—Detroit, Michigan.

God to give us a good revival. That we will be able to establish a Church of God here this year.—Mrs. Albert Lewis, Williamston, N. C.

The healing of my body. Our house burned down and I was seriously burned and am not able to walk even on crutches. Encouragement appreciated.—Mrs. A. M. Tuten, Box 708, c|o D. L. Chesser, Palatka, Fla.

A very urgent unspoken request.—Mrs. Onie Underwood, Walhalla, S. C.

Mrs. Flossie Wildason to be healed of T. B.—Bertha G. Shideler, Muncie, Ind.

A special request for Mrs. Etta Alverson.—Edith Pittman, Mobile, Ala.

The healing of my body.—Maude Robinson, Seaford, Del.

Me to be healed of rheumatism; a friend who has a serious nervous condition and is almost blind; a friend who was hurt in an accident, her two daughters to be healed.—Mrs. Laretta Hudson, Cromwell, Ky.

Me to be healed.—Mrs. M. J. Walker, Brasstown, N. C.

Mrs. Lue Casinger, Route 5, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, to be healed of a serious kidney condition. She hasn't walked in four weeks. Encouragement appreciated.—Mrs. J. L. Freeman, East Alton, Ill.

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THE MINISTER *His Work and the Bible*

By REV. M. M. MORTENSON

THE MINISTER AND BIOGRAPHY

Can you give a concise definition of the word "biography?" Here it is from a modern dictionary. Biography is "a written account of a person's life, actions, and character." Carlyle, the great English essayist, historian, and philosopher, said, "Biography is by nature the most universally profitable, universally pleasant of all things."

"Abel, . . . he being dead yet speaketh," Heb. 11:4. The Bible is undoubtedly the greatest biographical book. Think of the biography of such characters as, Moses, Noah, Joshua, Ruth, David, Elijah, Esther, Job, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jonah, John the Baptist, Peter, John, and Paul, besides many more well-known as well as obscure but nevertheless illustrious characters in their role of Biblical biography. The biography of Jesus Christ can be read in the five well-known words "He went about doing good."

Certainly we all long to know more intimately the lives of the great and mighty preachers who have preceded us. In making acquaintance with them through their biographies and autobiographies, we come to know their frustrations, trials, courage, consecration, and triumphs. Let us call the roll: Savonarola, Chrysostom, Augustine, Luther, Tyndale, William Law, Hugh Latimer, John Bunyan, John Wesley, George Whitfield, John Knox, George Fox, Spurgeon, Jonathan Edwards, Phillips Brooks, John B. Gough, D. L. Moody, Charles G. Finney, Henry Drummond, George W. Truett. Missionaries: William Carey, David Livingstone, Hudson Taylor, Adoniram Judson, Robert Morrison, James Chalmers, David Brainerd, John G. Paton, and many, many more never to be forgotten! As I write this, there comes to mind so very many mighty preachers of the gospel whom I did not name. Their lives still bless humanity for "their works do follow them."

We shall not wish to be satisfied in knowing only the lives of clergymen. We shall want an acquaintance with men and women from all walks of life and, as far as possible, in all past ages, great women like Joan of Arc, Catherine Booth, Josephine Butler, Elizabeth Fry, Francis Willard, Florence Nightingale, Jenny Lind, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Madame Curie, and Helen Keller; powerful governmental figures as those of George Washington, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Woodrow Wilson, and our late President Roosevelt. Add to this the names of famous poets, inventors, travelers, explorers, philanthropists, scientists, musicians, painters, et cetera.

There are certain biographies that we cannot afford to pass up since they represent the best ever written: Plutarch's "Lives," Benevenuto Cellini's "Autobiography," Boswell's "Life of Johnson," Lockhart's "Life of Sir Walter Scott," St. Augustine's "Confessions," and Franklin's "Autobiography." What enjoyment and profit in reading "Napoleon" (Ludwig), "Gibbon's Autobiography," "Carlyle" (Cromwell), "Caesar" (Froude), "John Knox" (Smith), "Lincoln The Unknown" (Carnegie), "Up From Slavery" (Booker T. Washington), "The Story of My Life" (Helen Keller), "My Father in China" (Burke), "George Washington Carver" (Holt). This is not meant to be a comprehensive list of what you will want to read. What is set forth here is meant to augment the awakening and stirring of our hearts to the love and pursuit of biographical knowledge.

One of the finest sets of biographical histories obtainable is "Beacon Lights of History," fifteen volumes, by Dr. John Lord. All who own this set will agree that it is simply marvelous and that they would not part with it for any price unless another set was available. Another delightful discovery to ministers is any or all of the writings of Dr. Frank W. Boreham. Author of thirty-two books, he does some of the very best of biographical preaching in his "A Faggot of Torches," "A Handful of Stars," "A Casket of Cameos," "The Temple of Topaz," "A Bunch of Everlastings." Dr. Clarence E. Macartney, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., one of the foremost preachers in America today, cannot be rivaled, in my opinion, in his biographical sermons on Bible characters. His volumes on "Great Men and Great Women of the Bible" are superb!

Biographical preaching is indeed a Biblical method and one of the most fascinating, educational, and soul-winning ministries available to all who will attempt it. Follow, for instance, the sermons of the world-famous Brooklyn pastor, Talmage, in his thrilling accounts of men and women through the ages, and you, also, will desire to marshal lives of both the good and sinful, to inspire and warn the congregation to which you minister.

I have heard it iterated again and again, that "the gospel of Christ is not graveyard stories." Ah, my brethren, can there be a gospel of Christ without the story of His grave? "The gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." Yes, Christ's gospel is adequate in all the vicissitudes of life. His gospel works and to hear of how men have triumphed even at the grave of those whom they loved and lost awhile, makes us brave to preach that He is ALL-SUFFICIENT in whatever life may bring in all its experiences.

Hear Spurgeon, the prince of preachers, who in life preached the all-sufficiency of Christ, questioned by one of his close friends on his deathbed after having bidden all farewell: "What word do you have now, that you are nearing the gates of death?" A smile wreathed his face and he said just four words, "Christ died for me!" Not only one minister's testimony, but thousands, and in their biographies we get the story of their fruitful lives and victorious homegoing.

One of the human characteristics of our minds is that of limited knowledge. "Now I know in part; but then shall I know even as I am also known." Won't heaven be wonderful, beyond our fondest hopes and imaginations! There we shall also be omniscient, knowing all things! What a glorious revelation of all the lives of those who have loved and served the Master in His vineyard! While we wait for His coming, let us enrich our ministries by the lives of those who have gone before. We are all biographical preachers to some degree, but let us excell!

RELIGION... *and the World*

• BY THE EDITOR •

Proper Accent

The story is told of an infidel who lay upon his deathbed. At the foot of his bed was a board on which was written, "God is nowhere." His little daughter came in. He asked her to read it. She spelled out the words and read, "God is now here." His eyes filled with tears. He felt himself a lost sinner in the presence of God, but found Him to be his Savior God.

—O—

Daddy, Let Christ In

The picture of Christ by Holman Hunt, "Christ, the Light of the World," hung on the wall. A little boy said, "Daddy, why don't they let him in?" After an explanation, he said, "Daddy, I'd open the door; wouldn't you, Daddy?" This led his father to think, and later to "open and let the Savior in" (John 10:9).

—O—

Showing Their Color

Claiming that schoolboy conspiracy existed to blow up Russian war monuments in the Hungarian Capital, Communist circles have renewed their effort for abolition of church schools. Anti-church feeling is spreading throughout the provinces and as many as six Reformed pastors have been driven from their parishes. The courts are Communist-controlled where such arrests have been made, it is charged.

—O—

Liquor and Crime

It is claimed that liquor and crime cost the nation over $34,600,000,000 yearly. With increased crime, child delinquency, and divorce also mounting up, it is easy to see that we as a nation are headed for the precipice. Only God can check this untoward generation.

—O—

Hungary and Communists

Communist newspapers are demanding the resignation of Istavan Balogh, Roman Catholic priest, who is undersecretary of state in the Hungarian Cabinet. The Communist paper also asked that priests be purged from schools and that religious instruction be abolished in state schools. However, turning to the other side of the question, a Hungarian rightists party has been formed, backed by the Archbishop of Esztergom and Primate of Hungary.

—O—

Good Luck Bible

In Cloverdale's Bible, Psa. 129:8 reads, "We wish you good luck in the name of the Lord."

—O—

Sixty Acres of Heaven

Mr. J. C. Penney, whose father was a Baptist minister, has given a Memorial Home Community in Clay County, Florida, called "Sixty Acres of Heaven." One hundred beautiful homes are provided and given by Mr. Penney to "those faithful men and women of God who have given their own active years to their fellow men and for Christ and His Church." Mr. Penney invested $1,250,000 to establish this home, to which he has added another $250,000 as an endowment fund. Mr. Penney is an outstanding Christian layman, and is widely known not only as a famous merchant but as a devoted Christian.

—O—

Lepers

We have read a great deal about "lepers" in the Bible. Leprosy is regarded as a type of sin. It was a plague that seized onto Miriam for backbiting Moses. Num. 12:10. Gehazi was afflicted with leprosy because of his covetousness. 2 Kings 5:20. Leprosy was a judgment sent upon King Azariah because he allowed false worship. King Uzziah was smitten with leprosy because he intruded into the priest's office. 2 Chron. 26:20. Which of these should have caused your leprosy, backbiting, covetousness, failure to let your light shine, or *intrusion into sacred things?*

—O—

The Sychrotron

An (AP) dispatch from Berkley, Calif., states that, "A machine which may be able to smash neutrons and protons, and possibly produce subnuclear energy far surpassing that of the atom bomb was unveiled Tuesday at the University of California after a long period of secrecy.

"The machine turns electrons into cosmic ray particles, which are the most powerful manifestations of energy to come within the experimental range of scientiests.

"A Harvard university research technician at Cambridge, Mass., Tuesday, claimed the first successful cure of a disease by application of atomic energy. Dr. Saul Hertz described his treatment with radioactive iodine therapy of overactive goiter as a success. Victims of this disease, he said, may be cured by radioactivity at a cost reduced from the present $200 and $300 to $2.50 if the army reduces the necessary elements."

Science is at least beginning to learn something about what life means, as elements of variable potency and content are discovered.

—O—

Running To and Fro

"Even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased," Dan. 12:4. Running to and fro is an outstanding sign of the end of the age. This, coupled with the increase of knowledge, is particularly significant. All about the inhabitable face of the earth ply the International Airway lines, bringing nations within a day or two of travel from one to the other, and many even closer than that. Faster passenger trains and ocean liners all bespeak the end-time. Increased travel and knowledge are here. Though not described as to the immense proportions, we may know that the age end is very near. These things describe the movement of the world. The sin and wickedness of the world is described in these words: "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived," 2 Tim. 3:13.

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Deeper Experiences of Famous Christians

Horace McCraken

I wish to take an opportunity to share with you my regard for a prized book. If some can be induced to read and own the book, I shall have done them a favor. It has sufficient merit and interest that one will want to reread portions of it a number of times, and thus has a continued usefulness that justifies its purchase.

The "Deeper Experiences of Famous Christians" are, according to the title page, "gleaned from their biographies, autobiographies and writings, by James Gilchrist Lawson, Evangelist." The author states that "the great object of this book is to describe, in their own words so far as possible, the deepest spiritual experiences of the most famous Christians of all ages and climes." He has searched in the libraries of America and Europe for the cream of Christian literature. He describes briefly the working of the Spirit in the Old Testament, New Testament, and lives of early saints, and goes on to relate the deeper spiritual experiences of such men as Savonarola, Bunyan, Whitefield, Cartwright, Finney, Moody, and many others. The emphasis is constantly on the work of the Holy Spirit in these persons' lives. Let me quote parts of a few paragraphs concerning the baptism of Charles G. Finney, in 1821, starting with a quotation from Finney's own words:

"But as I turned and was about to take a seat by the fire, I received a mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost. Without any expectation of it, without ever having the thought in my mind that there was any such thing for me, without any recollection that I had ever heard the thing mentioned by any person in the world, the Holy Ghost descended on me in a manner that seemed an educational work and a careful definition and enforcement of Catholic doctrine."

The great men Luther, Zwingli, and Calvin were, of course, strongly opposed to the first-mentioned three conditions, for they had started the objection in the first place, and also agreed quite closely in actively repudiating the following doctrine: Authority of the Pope (as the representative of Christ), priesthood and confession of sins to the priest, authority of traditions, sale of indulgences, salvation through works and penances, monastic and ascetic ideal for Christiantiy (meaning that they felt salvation should be joyous rather than sad), prayer to Mary and the saints, Holy Orders, and purgatory, as well as some others.

At the conclusion of that work, I observed that virtually all of the reformers, both Catholic and Protestant, agreed in one respect: One must *live* the moral standard he *preaches*. (This was in contrast to the rather widespread belief that a person could be used by God to bring salvation to others even though he himself was living in sin.)

As for the Protestant reformers, they reached a very general agreement in the following respects:

1. Repentance must be in the heart, and confession of sins to God.

2. The work of Christ on the cross is the complete and final sacrifice for sin, and no good works of ours can have any merit or contribute in any way to salvation.

3. The revelation of salvation through Christ is contained in the Bible to the exclusion of tradition, and the meaning of the Scripture is to be determined by reason and scholarship, rather than by a dependence on official interpretations given by the Church.

4. "Sooner or later the Reformers always came to the conclusion that the first great practical evil was the authority of the Pope... The papacy was contrary to Scripture, not simply because there were sundry texts against it, but chiefly because it was the center of a system which had been shown by experience to make void the righteousness of God revealed in the Scripture."—*Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics.*

CHURCH OF GOD

By O. C. Wheelis

"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18. Some people will say, "If we have the holiness or Church of God preachers come into our community, they will tear up our churches." Now if I or any other preacher can tear up your church, it is not what it should be. I readily admit that false teachers cause a great deal of confusion in local churches, even in the Church of God; but, yet, I have not the least fear that the Church of God as a whole will ever be overthrown, as she was planted or builded or organized by Jesus Himself and He says she shall not be overcome.

Let us see if we can find the Rock in the Bible that Jesus was referring to, for we are sure He had no reference to Peter's earthly body when He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church." We find in 1 Sam. 2:2, "Neither is there any rock like our God." Also, in 2 Sam. 22:2, "And he said, The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer." So we assume that it undoubtedly was the Word of God that Jesus was going to build His Church upon. We find in St. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." V. 14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

Next, we want to see something about the name of this church that Jesus was going to build. Isa. 62:2, "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." In verse one of this chapter, you will notice that His people were called Zion, as well as at many other places in the Old Testament; also, they were called Israel, and Stephen, in Acts 7:38, called it "the church in the wilderness." But thanks be to the great God of the skies, she is no longer in the wilderness but is shining just like Isaiah said she would, in Isa. 2:2, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted

(Continued on page 14)

SIGNS OF A DYING AGE

By Rev. Edd Cox

★

'What shall be the sign of thy coming...?"

"And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and WHAT SHALL THE SIGN OF THY COMING, and of the end of the world?" Matt. 24:3, or the "end of the age."

"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows," Matt. 24:4-8.

There has been a world of "turmoil" in this long gap since Jesus talked to these disciples. And as He set out to answer their questions, He began to tell them what would take place in the world from then up to the time when the church would be taken out of the world, i.e., the rapture of the saints. Indeed it is a dark picture, but the devil being the prince of this world, or age, we cannot expect this age to be very bright—wars, earthquakes, pestilences, crime, famines, nation rising against nation, kingdom against kingdom, etc. The devil is the god of this age, or world. Eph. 6:12; 2 Cor. 4:3, 4; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Thess. 2:9.

Note 2 Tim. 3:1-5, "This know also, that in the last days PERILOUS times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, COVETOUS, BOASTERS, PROUD, BLASPHEMERS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNTHANKFUL, UNHOLY, WITHOUT NATURAL AFFECTION, TRUCEBREAKERS, FALSE ACCUSERS, INCONTINENT, FIERCE, DESPISERS OF THOSE THAT ARE GOOD, TRAITORS, HEADY, HIGHMINDED, LOVERS OF PLEASURE MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." These "fig leaves" are falling in our yard today, and of a truth they are the signs of a dying age. Speaking of lovers of pleasures, note: 77,000,000 people attend the movies in the U. S. A. every week, and stay two hours; 11,000,000 of these are thirteen years of age and under, while we have 19,000,000 who attend Sunday School and stay one hour. What do they learn at the movies? Robbery, murder, lust love, divorce, adultery, fornication, drinking, SMOKING, etc. Yes, smoking! More than 20,000,000,000 cigarettes were put out in the U.S.A. in June 1942. (Think of this, in one month!) Staggering, isn't it? This great increase in cigarette sales is due to women smokers. Too, among these millions of movie-goers and cigarette-smokers, stand 1,350,000 girls selling liquor. Stand them side by side and they would extend a line one thousand miles. Think of this! Is it nothing to you? It should be something to you. This feeding arm from an evil octopus may have your girl or boy in this line soon.

Every year, 65,000 girls are swept into the red-light districts of our cities. Every year, we have 50,000 registered unmarried mothers, in addition to many thousands unregistered. This is some more "fig leaves," if you please! Here is what we have from J. Edgar Hoover, Chief of the G-Men. He has sounded the desperate alarm: "Hell has broken loose on the home front. The mothers of tomorrow are being made unfit for their God-given calling by the forces of debauchery loose in our land."

Dan Gilbert gives us these notes from the best trained reporters and analysts in America. (1) From New York: Juvenile crimes have hit an all-time high. Girls from ten to fourteen years of age are flocking through the police courts by the thousands. There are twice as many girls in jail today as there were at any time previously, of which we have record. (2) Illinois: The state has been swept by a wave of illegitimacy. In one high school of 300, twenty girls are expectant mothers. In one city with a high school population of 4,000, more than 1,000 girls are reported to be diseased, another 500 are expectant mothers. (3) California: Thrill-thirsty bands of young girls are prowling the streets of the leading cities every night. They prefer soldiers, but they are on the march for immorality, regardless. They have adopted the "eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we may die" philosophy.

Since Pearl Harbor: Teen-age girls lured into vice and immorality, 1,100,000; afflicted with social disease, 300,000; illegitimate offsprings, 75,000. We had in the U.S.A. in 1942, 210,000 churches and 430,000 saloons. We now have 78,000,000 registered drinkers. Forty per cent of the crimes are caused by this drinking mob; and this drink-crime-bill costs $6,000,000 each year. Jesus said this would be one of the "signs of a dying age." They will be EATING AND DRINKING, MARRYING AND GIVING IN MARRIAGE, etc. Matt. 24:36-39.

No wonder Roger Babson, the famous statistician said, September 18, 1942, "World Wars I and II have come about because the leading nations during the past fifty years have been trying to get along without God."

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:7. "Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same," Job 4:8. When a man or a nation sows bad seed, they may look to reap that or worse. The reason our nation is in such a dying condition is because of seed it has been sowing. God did not say that beer taverns, night clubs, honky-tonks, roadhouses, boose-dives, movies, etc., would exalt a nation, but he di dsay: "RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION: BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE," Prov. 14:34.

An influential member of the Turkish cabinet introduced a bill in 1939 to prevent Turkish children under sixteen years of age from attending movies in 1940. Canada and Australia barred about one hundred and fifty pictures which were shown in the U. S. A. The reason I am giving some of these back dates is to show the fact that the Nation (and even this age) didn't get sick overnight, but it has been "dying daily."

The downward course of man soon proved a dying condition, as the Apostle Paul sets forth to the Romans, as

(Continued on page 14)

Will You Choose the Temporal Way of Life or Will You Choose the Eternal Way?

By F. C. Dozier

After Naaman had been healed of his leprosy, he wanted to give Elisha a gift, but the prophet would receive none. His servant, Gehazi, however, coveted something for himself, and ran after Naaman. He received what he coveted, and also something he had not coveted—the leprosy of Naaman. 2 Kings 5:27.

In these days of big money, many are becoming covetous. They covet filthy lucre and they are getting it, and in addition they are receiving an inward corruption more terrible than Gehazi's outward corruption.

Christ says to us, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness," Luke 12:15, and the Apostle warns us that "no covetous man, who is an idolator, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God," Eph. 5:5.

Elisha's mind and thought were on the eternal. He had been willing to leave all to obey the call of God, and he never regretted his decision. He coveted something unseen; not the mere outward clothing of the prophet Elijah, but the power of God that had accompanied his ministry.

He was asking great things when he requested that the mantle of the mighty prophet might fall upon him. He coveted a blessed prophetic ministry like that of Elijah, and God gave him the desire of his heart.

There are but few coveting the mighty power of God and a prophet's life and ministry. True, there are some who would like to have what they consider a prophet's emoluments and a prophet's name, but they shun the cross, the separation, the life of holiness, and the life of prayer, which are indispensable to the prophet of Jehovah.

God called Saul of Tarsus to be His prophet. Did He offer him great financial compensation? No. He said, "I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake," Acts 9:16. After his sight of the Crucified One, things seen (the things of the earth) no longer allured, but he pressed forward after the unseen—the unseen prize at the end of the race. He was willing to keep his body under, and to be temperate in all things, as he pressed on for that unseen prize.

The opportunity comes to every soul to choose between the seen—the things that sense desires, the things that gratify the flesh; and the unseen—the winning of the pleasure of the unseen Father, the winning of the "well done" of an unseen Captain, the winning of the approval of an unseen Shepherd who appreciates faithfulness in the tending of His lambs and His sheep.

The Master's words "Feed my lambs; feed my sheep" are not only for Peter, but for the many. The unseen Shepherd watches and appreciates the sacrifices of that faithful Sunday School teacher who feeds her flock in Scripture pastures, Sunday by Sunday. But there are many unfaithful undershepherds who think only of feeding themselves and clothing themselves with the wool of the sheep, and do not feed the flock. They will meet the judgment that will come upon all unfaithful ones. The Master warns that all who fail to give meat in due season to His flock will have their portion with the hypocrites. But the faithful ones, who feed the flock, not for the sake of filthy lucre, not by constraint, but with willing hearts, for love of the Shepherd who laid down His life for them, will receive great reward.

Things seen are only temporal. The things unseen are eternal. Do not grasp too tightly the seen, and lose forever the eternal.

Joshua challenged Israel: "Choose you this day whom ye will serve," Joshua 24:15. They could choose to serve the seen idols of Canaan, or they could choose to serve the unseen Lord of hosts. But in later days, Israel turned her back on the Lord of hosts, and worshiped calves of gold, and calves of gold are still a great attraction to the many; they see no attraction in Him who made Himself of no reputation, who was dispised and rejected of men, who became poor to make others rich. They do not want to follow in the pathway of this unseen Leader and Commander.

Joshua, seeing Him who is invisible, having proved His faithfulness for many years, unattracted by the seen idols of Canaan, declared, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

You ask, "What attractions has the pathway of the Lord? Was there not untimely death for many of them? Were there not scourgings, mockings, persecutions, shipwrecks? Were there not terrible martyrdoms?" Yes. But listen to the most persecuted apostle's testimony: "Our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

If you could have visited him in his prison in Rome, you might have heard him say for himself and some of his fellow prisoners: "Hail to the cross! Hail to mocking! Hail to the scourgings! The eternal compensation are so wonderful and so glorious; and I know that these afflictions are working to the end that we might receive eternal glory. We choose to serve our Christ. We choose to follow Him. We choose the unseen Christ, and glory in our privilege to share His cross."

A greater than Joshua puts the question to you, the One who bears the nail-prints in His hands and His feet, and in whose side there is a wound: "Will you choose the temporal? or will you choose the eternal?" Will you follow the God of this world, who offers you the temporal; or the Christ of Calvary, who offers you the eternal?

God Blesses With Wonderful Revival

JIM, W. Va.—We truly praise God for the way He has been blessing here, and for the wonderful revival that has just closed. There were eighteen saved, eighteen sanctified, two baptized with the Holy Ghost, ten added to the church, and four baptized in water.

The revival was held by our pastor. We truly thank God for our good pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. R. Nicely. They have been a wonderful blessing to the church since they came here from Kansas City, Mo. We feel that we are very lucky to have this learned man of God as our leader.

Pray for us here, that the church may continue to grow and go forward for God.—Mrs. Hazel Coleman.

"I know that my Redeemer liveth." (Job 19:25.)

The second article of a trilogy on the unknown tongue. The final article, "Since Pentecost," will appear in next week's Evangel.

PENTECOST

By Charles W. Conn

THE APOSTOLIC UNITY

Scripture: Acts 2.

When Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem riding on a borrowed ass, there was not enough the multitudes could do for Him. Praising Him were uncounted throngs. When He died, these people faded away. One of His Christophanies was to "about five hundred of the brethren," 1 Cor. 15:6. However great was His former following, there were only 120 disciples faithfully gathered in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost. For this day the world had waited. The foundation had been laid—now there must be a structure; there must be unity; there must be a reconciliation of the differences begun at the Tower of Babel (see last week's article, *From Babel to Pentecost).*

Sixscore souls were gathered in singleness of purpose: the prayer of Jesus for apostolic unity (John 17:20-23) had become a reality. God can do anything with a unified people, as was proved by the early disciples of Christianity. We find the phrase *"with one accord"*—which seems to have been very popular among the First-Century Christians—in Acts 2:1; 2:46; 4:24; 5:12; 7:57; 8:6; 12:20; 15:25; 18:12, and 19:29.

WIND AND FIRE

"And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon EACH OF THEM." A sounding wind! Tongues like fire! Upon each of the 120!

Like a shower of flame, the Holy Ghost descended upon the little group of worshippers—and they began to speak in TONGUES! What tongues? The tongues that were begun at Babel! Were the people skilled linguists? No! They spoke AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE! Was it another sweep of Babylonian fire? It was not! This was the PENTECOSTAL FIRE! This was Babel's remedy—it restored a measure of what had been lost at the tower of rebellion. In his *Bible Cyclopaedia* (Funk & Wagnalls Co.), A. R. Fausset writes: "Then 'the multitude were confounded, because that every man heard them speak *in his own language;* and they marvelled saying, Behold are not all these which speak Galileans? and how hear we every man *in our own tongue wherein we were born,* the wonderful works of God?' This proves that as Babel brought as its penalty the confusion of tongues, so the Pentecostal gift on tongues symbolizes the reunion of the scattered nations."

CONFUSION

And again there was confusion. But this was not like the confusion at Babel—there it was the speakers who were confounded, but here the speakers were perfectly coalescent and all of those that *did not* speak were confounded. For weeks now, Jews from all parts of the known world had commingled in Jerusalem and now they came with running feet to see what new thing had been done. In utter bewilderment every man heard his vernacular tongue spoken from the lips of some impassioned Galilean. Strange indeed! Very, very confusing.

This cannot be explained phychologically, but must be understood in terms of supernaturalness. There is no verier truth than the sighing of a moving wind, bending boughs and filling sails before it—making itself felt and known: while, seeing the matter it wafts and feeling its pleasant urgings, none has ever seen the wind. Neither is there any verier truth than the moving, brooding Holy Spirit, mystical and wondrous, in His seizure of mortal tongues, quickening mortal bodies, making Himself felt and known, working in a God-chosen purpose. One that has once been enraptured by the Spirit; one that has once spoken as the Spirit gave utterance; one that has felt His surging, wooing presence in One's heart would as soon doubt the wind as to doubt the Spirit.

TWO ARGUMENTS

Sixscore men and women were fluently *speaking* languages they had never *heard* before. Let two arguments of the skeptic be settled here:

(1) "I believe in the Holy Ghost, I also believe in the gift of tongues, but I do not believe that the unknown tongue is the only initial evidence of this Baptism." Those that declare this to be their position believe that upon reception of the Spirit some receive the gift of healing, some discernment, interpretation, etc. Please note: "And they were ALL filled with the Holy Ghost, and (still ALL, if you please) began to speak with *other tongues...*" If there were other manifestations to serve as the initial evidence, why were some not healing, or interpreting, or working miracles, etc.? Why did the entire group of 120 have only ONE DEMONSTRATION? Because this has always been—and still is—the ONLY *initial evidence* that He has come; it is not until afterwards that ANY gift is given. *He must testify!*

(2) "The Bible says that the people who heard their languages spoken were Jews (Acts 2:5), therefore, what they heard was really only various dialects of the Hebrew language." This theory will not endure the facts. The children of Jacob were known by three names; viz., (a) *Hebrews*—Abraham was the first person to be called a Hebrew; he lived immediately after the Babel incident and Hebrew was the LANGUAGE he spoke. Hebrew is still the true language of the Jews. (b) *Israelites*—This was their NATIONALITY, and was used only when they were a nation. When the NATION of *Israelites* became subservient to captor nation, they went by the name of (c) Jews—This was their RELIGIOUS name, because of *Judaism:* their worship of *Jehovah.* When they were exiled from *Israel,* they spoke their captor's language instead of *Hebrew* but they steadfastly held to their *Jewish* religion—therefore, *Jew* became the most common name, until today *"Jew"* means anyone of Hebraic stock. In Esther 8:17, we find that Gentiles could become Jews, i.e., embrace Judaism. Thus a *Jew* is any person of any nation or any tongue that worships Jehovah as God. It is noted that Rabbi D. Philipson, quoted in *The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopaedia,* page 953 of Vol. 2, agrees completely with this theory of Hebrew-Israelite-Jew.

Then the Jews gathered at Jerusalem were not children of Israel, or

speakers of the Hebrew language living in foreign lands, *BUT THEY WERE THE FOREIGNERS THEMSELVES,* who had become proselytes to the Jewish religion. They could not understand Hebrew but they DID "hear ... every man in our own tongue, WHEREIN WE WERE BORN." Since a representative was in Jerusalem "out of every nation under heaven," it seems conclusive that every language given at the Tower of Babel was reuttered on the Day of Pentecost—hallelujah!

THE NATURE OF TONGUES

When the disciples first spoke in tongues, it was in clear, precise, understandable languages. Those gathered heard the gospel proclaimed in their own tongue, in their own sectional dialect. The speaking was not in unintelligible, nonsensical gibberish, but they spoke words and sentences of proper grammatical structure: the syntax was accurate and the passages were connected. God has not yet stooped to repetitious and meaningless banality. Argot is not the language of the Spirit!—but, as on the Day of Pentecost, God does TO THIS DAY speak with the tongues of those empowered with the Holy Ghost. (This will be discussed next week in *Since Pentecost.*) The unknown tongue is not the stammering of an excited soul, but is the mellifluous utterances of spiritual ecstasy. Mark this: When the Spirit speaks through you, it will be exalted praise or convicting exhortation—it will not be in dead, pompous, monotonous, or pointless verbiage. When the Holy Ghost designs to speak through lips of flesh, it will be in praises as exalted and errorless as the language of the Bible, for He is the Author of it, too. AND THE HOLY GHOST DOES SPEAK TODAY. This is an indubitable *fact!*

SPIRITUAL PRAISE

Practically every authority you will consult on this subject agrees that the unknown tongue was and is used chiefly for *praise* to God and edification of the speaker. The case was so during apostolic days. It is seldom hinted that tongues were used for any purpose other than rapturous praise. At random, we choose three books from which to quote:

(1) *The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia,* Vol. 5, page 2996: "The speaker in a tongue addressed God in prayer, principally in the prayer of thanksgiving. The words so uttered were incomprehensible to the congregation, and even to the speaker himself. Edification, indeed, was gained by the speaker, but this was the edification of emotional experience only. The words were spoken 'in the Spirit'; i.e., the ordinary faculties were suspended and the divine, specifically Christian, element took control, so that a condition of ecstasy was produced." The author, Burton S. Easton, concludes his article: "A man who has never allowed his religious emotions to carry him away may well be in a high state of grace—but he has missed something, and something of very great value." Mr. Easton also states that "a purely intellectual and ethical religion is rather a dreary thing."

(2) Fausset's *Bible Cyclopaedia,* page 699: "Still *praise,* not teaching, was the invariable use made of the gift." This article by Fausset—the entire book, really—is very good and any reader will do well to study it completely.

(3) *The Westminister Dictionary of the Bible,* page 612: "The gift of tongues was manifested in ecstatic or elevated praise of God, which was unintelligible to man. The tongue was the organ of the Holy Spirit, and not of the person to whom the gift was given; and the words spoken were devotional and not for the instruction of the church." This is one of two theories discussed concerning the nature of tongues.

CONTINUATION OF TONGUES

Scripture: Acts 8:4-25.

Simon Magus (the sorcerer) was not endowed with spiritual discernment. His deviltry revealed nothing to him, for Satan cannot divulge spiritual things. It is not possible that he was fooled, for he was a magician and would not be susceptible to other performer's tricks and frauds. Yet he *knew* that the Samaritan had received the Holy Ghost and he desired Him, too. How did he know? Because there was *visible* and *audible* evidence of the infilling. That is still the purpose of tongues today. Men know that He has come...

Scripture: Acts 10:34-48.

Peter doubted. Although he had declared that the blessing was for the Gentiles (Acts 2:39) as well as for the Jews, that was in the Spirit, he was not at all eager to go to Cornelius to help him. But he went. He preached. While he preached, Cornelius and his family received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Peter was convinced. What convinced him is clearly stated to be that he "heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God." That is still the purpose of tongues today. Men know that He has come...

HAVE TONGUES CEASED?

Some believe that the use of tongues ceased sometime between 50 and 70 A. D. That is not true, unless many of our most authoritative historians have agreed in error. The phenomena distributed to the early Christians were not spasmodic flare-ups of hysteria, but have been a potent force in the church UNTO THIS DAY. Demonstration of the Spirit has been noted in almost every church organization of any size since the Day of Pentecost. This heritage is the strength of the Church of God today. It has been almost two millenniums since that first small group became Spirit-filled, and with their ignited souls, set the world ablaze for God. The fire still burns. There has been a recurrence of Pentecost.

A big heart is better than a big house.

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N. A. E. REPORT

The Rev. E. W. Mills, pastor of the West Northwood Baptist Church of London, Eng., today told the National Association of Evangelicals that the Bible-believing Christians of England have set in operation preliminary machinery for the organization of a national movement similar to the N.A.E.

Such a trend, if followed in other lands, might foreshadow an evangelical world movement similar to the World Council of Churches, but excluding those who have departed from the essentials of a Bibical view of the world, according to James DeForest Murch, of Cincinnati, editor of *United Evangelical Action.*

Among specific targets of criticism of the N.A.E. has been the Federal Council of Churches, the leadership of which is largely in the control of religious modernism.

Mr. Mills spoke on "The Unsearchable Riches of Christ." "The church must evangelize its present opportunities," he declared. "Think of the opportunities created by the breakdown of world systems and policies. The bankruptcy of diplomats, politicians and social reformers before the problem of a sinful and selfish human nature is obvious."

Clyde W. Taylor, of Washington, D. C., secretary of the Eangelical Foreign Missions Association, disclosed that plans are ready for the establishment of associations of native churches in foreign lands on the same lines as N.A.E. "Except for a few fields," he declared, "the existing field organizations have been sponsored and controlled by those who have a strong inclination toward liberalism and institutionalized social missionary work. The salvation of evangelical missions will depend on their ability to stand and work together."

Taylor told of the concern of evangelical missionaries in distant lands over political pressure by Roman Catholic forces. He reported:

"Much concern is felt by our brethren in Puerto Rico over the efforts of the Catholic heirarchy to obtain control in every branch of the local government and the ease with which they are able to so influence the President of the U.S.A. and his cabinet as to secure the appointment of Roman Catholics for every vacancy. The latest struggle has been an effort to have religion (Roman Catholicism, of course) taught in the public schools in Puerto Rico. The entire Protestant group on the Island fought this and won. Now, pressure is being applied to secure the appointment of a Roman Catholic Commissioner of Education. The Island has always had a Protestant. Now unless there is intervention, the last Protestant on the governor's staff will be eliminated and the decline of the Puerto Rican school system will set in. The brethren in Puerto Rico look to us for our prayerful support and understanding in these struggles."

Taylor told of the tour of Latin American Republica which he recently completed in the company of Dr. Oswald J. Smith, of Toronto, Can., and Dr. J. Elwin Wright, of Boston, in which they observed the present tactics of the Roman Catholic Church which Taylor designated as "the enemy of evangelical missions." It became increasingly evident as the journey progressed, he said,

"That Rome is concentrating every effort on these republics to so control the political machinery that each republic may be closed to the gospel. If the Catholics can only secure the appointment of their man to a position in the government where he can control the entrance of foreigners, they are delighted. They immediately close that land to Protestant missionaries as "enemies of the good-neighbor policy." Then they go further and stir up strife and hate in every locality where it is possible. Recently, Columbia had its first Protestant martyr (at least the first in many years) when a man was shot near Cucuta because he had turned evangelical. The reports you have heard about Mexico, have, if anything, understated the sufferings endured by the Protestants at the hands of fanatical clergy and people. Chapels and homes have been bombed and burned, many Christians murdered and the business of outstanding Protestants boycotted. The persecution continues in some rural areas. Yet, in the face of this, I heard no complaint. Rather, many said the persecution was a blessing. It was purifying the Church of Christ and many Catholics were turned to Christ.

"In addition to foreign mission affairs, the Washington office has continued to serve the numerous members and commissions of the N.A.E. in their affairs at the Nation's Capital. An effort has been made to keep a watchful eye on legislation but the lack of time and staff has prevented the thorough accomplishment of this. With assistance, it is our belief that a very important ministry could be performed in this field on behalf of all our members. In spite of inadequate staff, many legislative matters were closely watched and in several cases word has been sent out through the pages of the N.A.E. regarding current legislation. This year several bills have been successfully handled. The education bills that not only threatened states' rights in education but would have enabled the Catholic Church to secure the subsidizing of some of its parochial schools, were completely defeated in the committee. The Petrillo Bill just recently passed was checked in the interest of gospel broadcasting and its author assured us that it was intended to free gospel broadcasting, along with all others concerned, from the malicious practices that have been imposed on broadcasters."

Days of Old-Time Revivals Are Not Over

KRAFTON, Ala.—Well, the days of old-time revivals are not over. We have just closed a great revival at Krafton, with Sister Mable Branch, of Birmingham, Alabama, as the evangelist. God gave us a wonderful revival with thirty-three saved, fifteen sanctified, eight filled with the Holy Ghost, eight baptized in water, and eight added to the church. We will never be able to tell all the good which was accomplished in this revival until we get to heaven.

The Krafton church is moving along nicely in every way. We are collecting money now to raise our church building ten feet so we can add Sunday School rooms under the church. We feel that in just a short time from now Krafton will be the leading church on the Mobile District. We surely have some very fine people here to work with and we enjoy working together with God. The people are real nice to us; they are standing by us in every way. Watch Krafton rise and shine for the Lord!—G. C. Spencer, pastor.

Invisible Shoulders

CHESTER SHULER

Sometime ago, I read of an Indian who had become a Christian, and later a minister of the gospel among his people. And then one day a white missionary, a young man, came into his section of the country to do some missionary work among the Indians. Hearing of the earnest Indian Christian minister, the missionary sought him out and asked his cooperation.

"My friend, I pledge you my invisible shoulder," was the Indian's reply.

We have no doubt that the missionary was very glad for this kind of help, and that many ministers today would welcome much of it, also. This brings up the thought that if "invisible shoulders"—the "shoulders" which loyally, though often unnoticed, help the ministers of God to bear their burdens— are so necessary and useful, who is to provide them?

Of course, we may have heard of that old lady who was always in her place at church, rain, snow, or sunshine, and who was such an inspiration to the young preacher. That is, she became an inspiration after he realized her true worth. As the story goes, the young man was just fresh from the seminary, had a rather high opinion of his oratorical abilities, and tried hard to impress his hearers. Then one day, a notorious old sinner came forward and confessed Christ, to the delight and secret elation of the preacher.

"My good man," he asked later, "I'm so very glad you accepted the Lord under my ministry, but would you mind telling me just what it was in my sermon that brought conviction into your heart?"

"Nothing that you said did it, young man," the convert answered. "It was the face of that old lady, Mrs.——, who sat two seats from me. I decided I wanted what she has, and that made me come to Christ."

Later, the minister, somewhat humbled, cultivated the friendship of the humble old lady. She became indeed one of his "invisible shoulders." Often he went to her home and received much spiritual help and wise counsel, but, best of all, the assurance of her prayers for him and his work for the Lord.

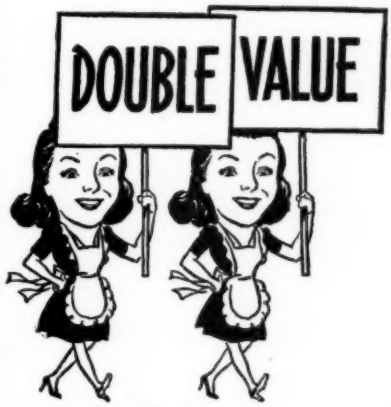
"She became a great pillar in my church work, although few besides her and me and the good Lord knew of it," he said later. "I have been thoroughly humbled, thank God, and no longer lean upon my oratory, but often upon those few invisible shoulders that I know exist among my flock."

What sort of "shoulders" does our minister have to lean upon? Or does he have to depend on something else? There are always a few of them around every church, so pitiably few. Sometimes they are old ladies or old men, unable to do much except pray for their minister, and that is perhaps the very finest form of help. But sometimes, too, they are able-bodied men and women, who bear the burdens of the work in Sunday School and church and upon whom the preacher knows he may depend implicitly. Inspiringly, too, they exist among the young people, at times. And what is finer than to see a few faithful, loyal, dependable young folks at work for their Lord in the church? Nor may we forget those faithful "shoulders" that carry on the ladies' aid and like duties, unnoticed and unpraised.

It is a privilege to be an "invisible shoulder," and the most faithful are those who really prefer the invisible part.

It is possible for anyone who loves the Lord to take up this loving, important, effectual "secret service" right in his or her own church or other Christian group.

Why not?



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J. A. MUNCY, Superintendent.

REPORTS *From the Field*

Looking Forward

MADISON, Ark.—Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I just want to report the good all-day service we had at Riverview church on Easter Sunday. The morning message was brought by the pastor, Homer Renfro. Then, after enjoying a good dinner, we had Sunday School, followed by a wonderful message, by Brother Doyle J. Walter, district pastor. My how the Lord did bless!

Riverview church has been disbanded now for sometime, owing to the members' all moving away, but this year some of the members, and also the pastor, live close to the church, so we're looking forward to a good revival this summer, and we're hoping and praying for a great harvest of souls. Sunday School has been organized with good attendance and much interest being shown. Pray that Riverview will be a soul-saving station until Jesus comes.

Please pray that I will stand true to the Lord and be a soul-winner for Him.—Mamie Larley, clerk.

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Report From Joplin, Mo., District

"The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

I wish to write at least a little of the many things that God has wrought here in Missouri, especially on the Joplin District. This district lies in the southwest part of Missouri, covering almost one-fourth of the state and for a number of years had only two small churches in it. At present, there are five active churches. The oldest church had to be disbanded.

At Rich Hill, the pastor, Brother Roberson, and his people bought a store building and remodeled it. Later, they bought a nice church house, all furnished, on two lots, so they sold the store building. This church has grown in every way. They brought the largest mission offerings to our district convention, May 19, 20, $83 and $77.80 respectively. They plan to build a parsonage soon.

Lebanon, under the leadership of their pastor, Rev. Barker, has in the past few months, built a new church house and will soon have a new parsonage finished. Brother and Sister Barker went there and dug this church out of the rough. Only the Lord could have accomplished that which has and is being done there by using this good man and his wife and son. They have accomplished a great work. The future looks bright.

At Springfield, we now have two churches—the oldest one, North Springfield, was worshipping in a rented store building when it was sold and they had to move into a sister's home for services. They will soon have completed a nice, large block church, free of debt. The pastor, Rev. Presley, has worked faithfully and God has honored and blessed his labor. They plan to buy a bus. The future there is very bright. The West Springfield church is newly organized. They bought a nice church house in a good residential section. They are doing fine work under their pastor, Rev. Gooch, and Mrs. Gooch. They are in a good revival there now. They are working hard and God is blessing.

Joplin is one of the oldest churches in Missouri, and the oldest on this district. They own the church building and two lots on which it sits. Only a few months ago we came here as pastor and found no place to live. After much difficulty, we bought a parsonage and improved it, then sold it and bought a house and two lots across the street from the church house. We have made good progress in all departments. For over a year, I went to Camp Crowder on Tuesday nights and had services in Chapel 2800. We met many Service men who have been a great blessing to this church, as well as the church a blessing to them. We have outgrown our church house, so we face enlarging our borders.

We had the best district convention here April 19, 20, that this district has ever had. Our mission offering was $144.56 and our orphanage offering was $126.40, total $311.98. This is extra good for this district. The spirituality is fine throughout the district. We are planning, if the Lord tarries, to expand into new fields in the district.

We have two lots bought and paid for at Clinton and plans made for Rev. and Mrs. Sage to go there and dig out a church. It can and will be done, by God's help.

For the past four years, this year being soon to close, Brother Watson, his wife and daughter have worked hard. Missouri has made good progress under the leadership of Brother and Sister Watson. We, in Missouri, do not want to give them up at this Assembly. I have never worked under a better state overseer. They are loved by the entire church, the friends of the church, and business people.

Rev Moore, our state Sunday School and Y.P.E. superintendent, and Mrs. Moore have done a good work in Missouri this year. They are loved and appreciated over the entire state. These departments show a nice growth already this year.—T. F. Blackwell, pastor and district overseer.

— — —

News From Local Church at Sevierville

We are happy to report victory through the blood of Jesus Christ. Sunday night, April 28, was the closing night of one of the greatest revivals the local church has ever known. The evangelist was Rev. Vep Ellis who brought some inspirational messages which were approved by the Holy Ghost. There were five saved, three sanctified, two baptized with the Holy Ghost, seven added to the church, and a great reviving of all the saints. We praise God for Brother Ellis and the messages he brought us.

We praise God for the way He is blessing in all departments of the church. Our Sunday School is growing and especially the junior Y.P.E. We started with eighteen the first night and now have between seventy-five and ninety each service. A lot of credit goes to Brother Hermon Clarke, the Y.P.E. president, and Sister Addie May Hamby, in charge of the children, who has worked faithfully with the young people. We desire prayer that God will continue to bless the work at Sevierville local church.

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Wonderful Service Enjoyed

MT. VALE, Tenn.—On March 3, there was an all-day service at Mt. Vale. The Veterans Gospel Band was there from Bible Training School at Sevierville, also many visitors from the other churches on the district. We had Sunday School in the morning, then turned the service over to the Veterans Gospel Band. There was testifying, music and singing by the Band. Around three hundred were present. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful service. The Holy Ghost was present from beginning to end. There were two soul-stirring messages.

We invite this Gospel Band back at any time. Pray for the work at Mt. Vale.—Viola Kimbrough, clerk.

• • • REVIVALS • • •

SHAWSVILLE, Miss.—God wonderfully blessed in the revival just closed at Shiloh Church of God.

Truly, we were made to sit in heavenly places as our souls were blessed night after night by the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Messages were given out and interpreted. There were sixteen saved, thirteen sanctified, and eleven filled with the Holy Ghost. The church is much encouraged for God. Rev. C. S. Froshour did the preaching, assisted by the pastor, Rev. O. G. Friddle. Sacrament and feet washing were observed, after which nineteen converts presented themselves for membership and were accepted into the church.

The special singing by Brother and Sister Froshour and local talent was enjoyed by all. The attendance was the largest ever had there.

The climax to this wonderful revival was the baptizing last Sunday afternoon. Rev. M. C. Cockrell, our district pastor, preached the baptismal sermon on the bank of Sunflower River. Rev. Lott led in prayer, after which twenty-three followed the Lord in water baptism, Brother Froshour doing the baptizing, assisted by Brother Friddle.

We thank God for the way He is blessing at Shiloh, and earnestly desire your prayers, that we may be a lighthouse for God.—O. G. Friddle, Rt. 1, Box 114.

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CLOSPLINT, Ky.—The Church of God at Closplint has had three weeks of revival, Brother E. L. Richardson, the pastor doing the preaching. Thirty-two have been saved, sixteen sanctified, six filled with the Holy Ghost, and four added to the church. We are expecting the revival to go on. Brother Richardson is doing a wonderful work here.—Evelyn Cressa, clerk.

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CHRISTIANSBURG, Va.—Sunday night, April 28, we closed a wonderful and glorious revival here at the Church of God, in which Rev. L. S. Haymore, 733 Hughs St., Danville, Va., did the preaching. The preaching was enjoyed by everyone.

This revival lasted for four weeks. Many nights we could not find seats for all the people who came to the services. We closed with about twenty-five in the altar seeking the Lord. Thirty testified to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, fourteen were sanctified, one filled with the Holy Ghost, sixteen baptized in water, and twenty-three added to the church, for which we are thankful. We are also thankful for the way this little band of Christians stood by the evangelist.

Our Sunday School has more than doubled, and also the Y.P.E.

Sunday night, at the close of the meeting, we had the Lord's Supper and feet washing. Thirty-eight took part in this.

Also, this church gave enough cash to buy the evangelist a nice suit, and they did not forget the pastor in this. They gave him money to get himself a suit. We certainly thank God for those good people, and for their loyalty to their church and to us. Thank God for His good Church.—Mrs. J. R. Holcomb, Box 507.

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BAINBRIDGE, Ga.—Our revival continued for two weeks. There were several saved and sanctified, four filled with the Holy Ghost and nine added to the church. The entire church was greatly blessed. One backslidden sister had pneumonia during the revival. God healed her, and she promised the Lord that if He would raise her up she would serve Him when she got up, so she came to church last night, and got saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. Thank the dear Lord for His great blessings. Oh, I feel encouraged this morning to go on and on until Jesus comes or calls for me. I don't want any of this world's goods, but I want more of Jesus in my life, praise the dear Lord.

We had a wonderful service last Sunday night. The Holy Ghost took charge, and we didn't have any preaching, but the altar was soon filled. We are expecting a great time in the Lord next Sunday night. We are going to have feet washing and sacrament. I pray the Lord will bless wonderfully. All who read this, please pray for us here at Bainbridge.

Our evangelists were Sister Mildred and Sister Gloria Griffin.—Mrs. Sophie Griffin, 930 E. Troupe St.

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ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.—Sis. B. J. Hillhouse and son started a revival April 28 at the Church of God, Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

God gave us a wonderful revival. In fifteen days sixteen were saved, fourteen sanctified, fifteen filled with the Holy Ghost, and six added to the church.

Sis. Hillhouse did some wonderful preaching and singing and Bro. Jerome Hillhouse did some real singing.

May God bless her work for Him.

It was said that this was the greatest revival in the history of the church at Roanoke Rapids, N. C. Pray for us.—Rev. Floyd A. Boger, pastor, P. O. Box 442.

GOOD NEWS!

Our new book, "CHRISTIAN JOY," is off the press and orders are being filled NOW. This is an ideal book for your church—a COMBINATION of NEW and REVIVAL songs. 35c per copy, $3.00 per dozen, $18.00 per one hundred, 25 or more at the 100 rate.

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SIGNS OF A DYING AGE

(Continued from page 6)

God gave them up unto "VILE AFFECTIONS."

"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them," Rom. 1: 28-32.

Here is another "fig leaf": "But EVIL men and SEDUCERS shall wax WORSE and WORSE, DECEIVING, and being DECEIVED," 2 Tim. 3:13. These signs of a dying age are for our "admonition." "Now all these things happened unto them for ENSAMPLES: and they are written for OUR ADMONITION, upon whom the ENDS OF THE WORLD ARE COME," 1 Cor. 10: 11. AMEN.

CHURCH OF GOD

(Continued from page 5)

above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it."

What was the new name God's house or church was called in St. John 17:11? Jesus, praying to the Father, said, "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me." In verse 12, talking directly to His Father in this wonderful prayer, He said, "While I was with them in the world I kept them in thy name." Please notice also Paul's prayer in Eph. 3:14, "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." Here we can see the Church of God on earth, and the family of God in heaven, plainly.

What was the price Christ paid for His Church? In Acts 20:28 we read, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Here is the name again, the Church of God; also, the great price paid by Jesus for His Church. No surprise that we as members magnify and praise His Church, considering the price He paid for it, also to know His Church is named after God Himself.

Eph. 4:11-13 tells us the kind of ministers God gave to His Church. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." I think we have made the name plain enough for any unprejudiced mind to see that the Church of God is the real Bible name. But if not, see how Paul addresses his epistles to the Church of God at Corinth. 1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1.

We have also showed you the kind of preachers God placed in His Church. Now we will see what kind of a church He is coming to catch away. Eph. 5:25-27, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself fo rit; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

There'll Be No Suffering in Heaven

BENSON, N. C.—Dear Brothers and Sisters, I am still happy, serving God and enjoying His blessings as He sees fit to bestow them. I really thank God tonight for saving me. I'm sanctified and the blessed Holy Ghost abides, for which I praise God.

Ever since I was saved, I've been seeking for more wisdom and knowledge of the Word of God. I've always wanted to read God's Word, but have always been an invalid, and was deprived of the privilege of going to school. I'm still thanking and praising God for coming into my heart. I sleep with my New Testament under my head every night, praying that God will give me understanding of His precious Word. I often think of how the Lord sends down the Holy Comforter and gives us wisdom. I thank the Lord that I'm one of His children. I want my faith to be as never changing as the Hebrew children's and Daniel's and all the saints of God. I often think about heaven, and how it will be up there with all the cares of the world forgotten. Praise God, when my life here is done, I'll trade this old cross for a crown.

If it's God's will for me to be afflicted, I still pray His holy will be done. I'm willing to suffer, for Jesus suffered for us. The pain He suffered we'll never know. But I want to be humble at the feet of Jesus and always live in the center of His will. Glory to God, I'm pressing on. Sometimes the way seems long and rough, but by God's help, I know heaven is my home.—Miss Lizzie Parnell, Box 442.

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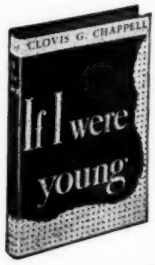

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Ask, Then Believe

RIPLEY, Tenn.—Greetings in Jesus' name. We have just closed a wonderful revival here, which ran from March 18 through April 3, with Rev. Cletus Clark, evangelist. There were ten saved, six sanctified, one filled with the Holy Ghost and five young people added to the church.

Brother Clark's messages were enjoyed by everyone, also his music and singing.

We had several visitors from the district, including our district pastor, Rev. Charlie Taylor. We all enjoyed the services. We also had Sister Lavenure Smith, Lawrenceburg, with us. We enjoyed her piano playing.

Then, the following Friday night, in our Y.P.E. service, three young people received the Holy Ghost. We had just closed a contest of raising money on our parsonage, but for those three months we were working for souls. Thank God, the last night of our soul-winning campaign, God answered our prayers by baptizing those three with the Holy Ghost. It pays to pray, then wait on God for an answer. We have a wonderful band of young people here who have a mind to work for God and the upbuilding of His kingdom.

Pray for our work.—Miss Syble Cannon, Rt. 1.

I Am Still Trusting God

ADAIRSVILLE, Ga.—Dear Sisters and Brothers and everyone who reads this, I am praising the Lord for healing my baby. God surely did heal her. She was so sick she would not look at anything. We didn't have the doctor with her. We just had the sisters and brothers to pray for her. I know that they were praying for her. I just thank the Lord for everyone that prayed, but I give God all the praise for it. We just need to trust God more. When we get to where we think we have to give up, just hold on; God will do just what He says He will. Don't ever give up, for God can do all things. Praise His sweet and Holy name! I don't know what I would do without Him. Many times He has healed us. We just have to hold out. The old enemy would like for us to give up, but Jesus said in His word that he will never leave us nor forsake us.

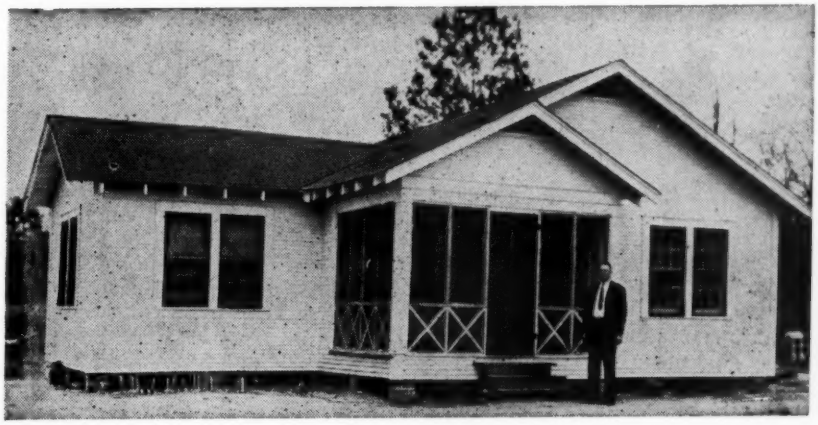
Pray for our little church at Tow's Chapel. Bro. Digby is our pastor.—A sister in Christ, Grover Green, Rt. 3.

Successful Revival

RIDGWAY, Ill.—We are glad to report the closing of a successful revival at Ridgway, Ill., Friday night, April 26, with Rev. C. N. Steel doing the preaching. There were seven saved, two sanctified, two filled with the Holy Ghost. three added to the church, and seven baptized in water. —W. L. Sweet, pastor.

It was never loving that emptied the heart, nor giving that emptied the purse.

RICHBURG, MISSISSIPPI, CHURCH AND PARSONAGE



A little over two years and seven months ago, Rev. Earl Brewer came to South Mississippi, a few miles out of Hattiesburg, and found a little church with five members and a little church building worth approximately two hundred dollars. The church started to progress and has never stopped progressing, so that now, after a recent revival, they counted a total membership of ninety, a gain of eighty-five members in less than three years. During this past revival there were thirty-seven saved, thirty-two sanctified, twenty-three filled with the Holy Ghost, twenty-seven added to the Church of God, and twenty-one baptized in water. The property value of this church is now aroumd six thousand dollars.

Included is one of the finest parsonages in the State of Mississippi. The church has recently been remodeled and built larger; however, the crowds are getting so large until they are now planning on enlarging the building still more. This church has the largest Sunday School in Mississippi. The Y.P.E. has been leading in attendance for the past four months. Rev. Brewer and the good members of the Richburg church are certainly deserving of our warmest congratulations.

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